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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshikazu URA  
Serial No. : Not yet known (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP00/02304  
filed April 7, 2000)  
For : RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Amended) A rechargeable battery comprising:  
an electrode plate group including a positive electrode plate, in which a positive electrode material is attached to a current collector, a negative electrode plate, in which a negative electrode material is attached to a current collector, the positive and negative electrode plates being superimposed with an intervening separator therebetween, wherein the current collector of one or other of the positive electrode plate and the negative electrode plate is projected on at least one side of the electrode plate group for forming by itself a flat plane on one side of the electrode plate group;  
an electrolyte;  
a battery container in which the electrode plate group and the electrolyte are